

# SPOKE

Conestoga College, Monday, September 25, 1989

## Index

PCB's on campus	Page 4
Wheelchair Kung Fu	Page 6
Intramural sign up	Page 8

## Faculty to vote on strike action Oct. 12

By Alan Elliott

Ontario community college faculty will vote Oct. 12 on strike action after mediation talks broke off Sept. 14. A tentative strike date has been set for Oct. 18.

The major issues are salary and job security, with the faculty, represented by the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, claiming

their pay has fallen below that of elementary and high school teachers.

The offer of 5.5 per cent the first year and 6 per cent the second would keep college instructors at the low end of the scale for teachers in Ontario, according to Bart Wesseling, a member of the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technologies faculty bargaining

unit and president of local 237.

The union has asked for a staged increase over the next year with a 10.33 per cent compounded end rate, which translates to a net increase of 6.8 per cent.

"That would put us \$100 (per year) above the public school teachers," said, Wesseling.

A Guelph campus faculty member, Wesseling said he feels a strike

vote is likely and that if the support staff, whose talks have also halted, decide on Sept. 26 to walk out (Oct. 11 at the earliest), the faculty will follow suit.

Wesseling pointed out that the 6.8 per cent isn't that far from the college's 5.5 per cent offer but Bill Cruden, chairman of the Council of Regents (the colleges' bargaining team) said the colleges don't

want to face that high a hike next year.

"We simply could not afford that," said Cruden.

The offer of 5.5 and 6 per cent is in line with the inflation rate and current offers to teachers and other public sector workers.

Pressures on the government to

Turn to Faculty, page 3



Members of Kitchener's fire department leap from the rescue unit to investigate an alarm at the college. (Photo by Andrea Buckley/Spoke)

## Firefighters respond to alarm

By Andy Schoenhofer

Firefighters from two stations rushed to Conestoga's Doon campus about 6 p.m. on Sept. 18, only to find a false alarm.

"The alarm was apparently a malfunction in the fire alarm system," said Captain Jim Rebbeck, of the Kitchener fire department's Station Four on Fairway Road.

Firefighters got to the college in about 10 minutes, but spent another 15 working with security to turn the alarm off.

John Lassel, Doon Student Association president, was upset over the lack of organization shown by college security.

"I walked out of my office and asked a security guard what was happening, and he didn't seem to know what to do," said Lassel in an interview immediately after the ruckus.

Lassel then noticed the alarms weren't ringing in the technology wing.

Malcolm Rostance, the college's health and safety officer, said the alarm system is checked twice yearly by an outside company and had been checked in the summer. He said the alarms in the wings are hooked together and one should have tripped the others, but something had apparently gone wrong with the connection.

The alarm system was checked and repaired the

day after the false alarm.

Lassel also wondered why the security guard wasn't evacuating students in the wings without alarms ringing and why the guard didn't seem to know how to shut the alarm off.

"You have to wonder if they've received any training about what to do in emergencies," he said.

One of the guards on duty at the time, Jim Brady, said the confusion resulted from a number of things.

Brady was caught alone in the building because the other guard, out on his normal rounds, didn't have his radio with him and couldn't be reached. The other guard didn't hear the alarms because they weren't ringing in that part of the building.

Brady said he is on temporary duty in the evenings because Janet Smith, the regular night guard, is on dayshift filling in for security head Bob Gilberts who is on leave for personal reasons. The opportunity for training hasn't presented itself due to understaffing, Brady said.

The college switched to Burns International Security Services Ltd. in July because Burns offered the best tender for security services.

On Sept. 5, three more guards were brought in to help enforce the college's no-smoking policy.

Lassel argued "the college may be concentrating on the wrong thing when they hire guards to enforce the smoking rules." He said he feels students' immediate safety is more important.

servicing Doon campus.

The new schedule has been timed to coincide with the beginning and end of classes, according to a Kitchener Transit report. A bus arrives and departs at fifteen minutes

before and fifteen minutes after the hour, allowing students enough time to reach classes beginning and ending on the hour and half-

Turn to Bus, page 4

## Kitchener Transit alters schedule

By Brian Shypula

Conestoga College students have more than one timetable to memorize since Kitchener Transit changed the schedule and route

## New look, more space

By Terra Crowley

Beaver Foods staff are confident that business will increase as a result of the newly renovated Doon cafeteria, but students disagree.

Renovations for the cafeteria began early this summer and provide a new look and more space for the serving area.

Jackie van Trigt, unit manager of Beaver Foods, said there is no comparison between the newly renovated cafeteria and the old one.

"Sales will probably increase because of the new deli bar and gourmet coffee bar," she said.

Students at the college disagree. "The prices are outrageous," said third-year graphic design student Michelle Tait.

The price increase has nothing to do with the renovations, said van Trigt, but is just part of their yearly increases. She said that Beaver Foods is not financially responsible for the construction costs. Beaver only has to provide their own equipment and Conestoga College pays the rest.

Drink prices have increased to "offset the prices of the meals," said Colleen Liang, a supervisor for Beaver Foods.

"We feel that there is not much of a price difference between Beaver Foods and the Kwikie Minit Mart convenience store down the road," she said referring to a column printed in the July 10 issue of Spoke.

"The difference, if any, is about 10 cents."

Sabina Wohlfahrt, a first-year management studies student, said "I don't think that it is fair that those of us who do not buy a meal at the cafeteria should have to pay for it through buying a pop."

Food prices is only one of the problems Beaver Foods still faces. In addition, the renovations did not improve the ventilation system for the cafeteria workers.

As well, van Trigt said that the seating problem the cafeteria has faced for numerous years continues.

"We would appreciate if students would not play cards at peak times."

## Recycling program gets new volunteers

By Lori Krachuk

New developments in the recycling efforts of a handful of Conestoga faculty and students have given the project's founder David Jackson new hope.

Recently, the custodial staff at the Doon campus agreed to transport recyclable material collected in bins and take it down to the old wood skills area. Once there, volunteers sort the material.

The new help is really appreciated and Jackson estimates it will cut volunteer work by one-third.

Jackson, a computer programmer/analyst teacher, began the recycling project about a year ago, and he estimates close to 10 tonnes of mostly fine paper have been saved.

He started by setting up large bins to collect fine paper, including photocopies and hand-outs and then added computer paper.

At first, students began by throwing garbage into the collection bins, and recycling participation was non-existent. As people became familiar with the project, however, some students offered their help. Currently there are five people involved in the recycling effort.

As well as Jackson, two business teachers, John McLoughlin and Bob Wall, have volunteered their help.

Donna Ferguson, support staff in the technology program, handles recycling for the entire technology wing. Ferguson became involved after Jackson came into the technology office to hang a recycling sign above the photocopier.

"By being visible in the office, other faculty have picked up on the idea," said Ferguson.

Lora Lee Herron, another volunteer, takes care of recycling for the

Turn to Recycle, page 6



# OPINION

## SPOKE

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### College has its problems

By Rick Webster

Over a glass of brown pop, a good question surfaced. "Why the hell couldn't they have started the construction at the beginning of the summer?"

A very logical question.

Maybe the construction gods decided, in their divine wisdom, that in order to make the first two months of school totally messy, they would contribute a few construction woes.

Obviously the 20 minutes it takes most people to get here isn't long enough.

After waiting in line for ten minutes just to enter Pinnacle Drive, the patient motorist loses it and begins a Mario Andretti search for the last available spot in lot one.

If you happen to have a late class (later than 8:30 a.m.) you most likely have parked in Coconut's lovely new turf parking lot overlooking the rolling hills of the golf course.

Since you're parked there, you might as well play a round of 'did you see where that went' instead of going to class.

These problems seem severe to a person who has the privilege of driving to 'Harvard on the Highway'.

If you have ever ridden the bus here, then these problems will seem petty.

If you live in Waterloo and come here by bus, why haven't you moved your bed into the lounge? I'm sure the security guard seen sleeping there wouldn't mind a roommate.

These busing problems have all diminished since the new route to the college was formed. Yah rrrright.

To get from the college to the corner of Ottawa Street and Strasburg Road it took a friend and I nearly two hours on the bus. By car it would take 15 minutes tops.

No wonder people from the area go away to college.

## You Tell Us:

What do you feel needs to be done to improve unity between campuses?



I feel there should be more smaller orientation gatherings to allow everyone a better chance to get to know one another. The major orientation is more like one large "bash" and after that, everyone is left to go their separate ways.  
**Kelley Anne McIntyre**  
 first-year BRT



More ads and notices of events posted.  
**Glenn DeGeer**  
 first-year  
 woodworking technician



Pay us!  
**Bill Lovell**  
 first-year LASA



I feel unity among campuses can't be met because of their distances from each other.  
**Mike McKeown**  
 first-year accounting



An all-day event and have one huge intercampus party.  
**Perry Steckly**  
 second-year LASA



Have a mini olympics between the campuses.  
**Frank "Larry" Gallizzi**  
 third-year  
 accounting and  
 Janet "Hazel" Richardson  
 first-year CPA

## A call to arms over the strike; a call for letters to the editor



By Andy Schoenhofer

History may teach us something in studying the current support staff and faculty union contract disputes.

When faculty last threatened to strike, in October 1984, students demonstrated, held forums with faculty and generally cared about if the strike took place or not. At a forum Oct. 12, 1984 with the union representative, students were told teachers didn't want to go on strike but would if there was no other way to get what they wanted.

Faculty went on strike Oct. 17 and were legislated back to work Nov. 12.

The strike infuriated many students because courses had to be adjusted by shortening Christmas break, cancelling spring break and lengthening the school year to make up for the three weeks they missed.

The last decision allowed non-college students to grab summer jobs first.

The issues are different: then, it was class sizes and work overload; now, it is wages. But a strike is a strike.

Talks in the current dispute broke down Aug. 31 for support staff and Sept. 14 for faculty.

Strike votes have been set for Sept. 26 for support staff and Oct. 12 for faculty. Will one union cross the other's picket lines? Not likely.

Students today don't seem to worry about the consequences of a strike.

We have only a few weeks to get teachers to re-think their positions, or to lobby the

Council of Regents (the provincial government's representatives) for a quick decisions on the issues.

Read the Spoke stories for information (page one and three in this issue). Talk to your teachers about their views. Write your member of parliament.

Remind teachers they are here for us. Remind politicians we vote for them. Remind fellow students a month-long strike could mean cancelling entire academic years.

Whoever you support, get involved in this issue because your education, and possibly the quality of your life, depends on a quick resolution — without a strike.

### Don't forget to write

Although Spoke is run by the Conestoga journalism students as part of their program,

it's written with the college population in mind.

Because of this, Spoke is introducing a letters to the editor feature to our editorial page so the population can have its say.

One thing we need, however, is letters to print.

Letters will be printed only if they include the writer's name and program name so we can determine the letter's validity.

Short letters (under 200 words) are more likely to be printed and personal attacks will not be accepted.

Spoke reserves the right to edit for space requirements, but guarantees the letter's intent will not change.

Drop letters in the Spoke mailbox in Doon's main office, at our office on the fourth floor at Doon (room 4B15) or send them to Spoke by inter-departmental mail.

We're hoping to hear from you soon.



# College staff to vote on contract Sept. 26

By Alan Elliott

Community college support staff will vote Sept. 26 on their latest contract offer. If the contract is rejected, they could walk off the job on Oct. 11.

Negotiations between the Council of Regents, the college's bargaining agent, and the 6,300-member Ontario Public Service Employees Union, which represents Conestoga College staff, began May 17 and broke down Aug. 31.

The college's final offer included a salary increase of 5.5 per cent in the first year and six per cent in the second.

The union's counter-offer amounted to 9.2 and 9.4 per cent, according to Conestoga College president John Tibbits, chairperson of the college's bargaining team.

The union's negotiating team met with presidents of the union locals and recommended rejection of the offer and a strike vote.

Kerry Gennings, a Doon campus staff member and president of union local 248, said there is a strong possibility that workers will turn down the offer and vote to strike. The two sides could resume bargaining even after a decision to walk out, he said.

The 300 staff members at Conestoga College campuses include

support, clerical and administrative workers and technicians.

Separate negotiations between the college faculty, represented by a different bargaining unit of the same union, and the college broke off Sept. 14. The faculty's contract also expired Aug. 31 and they will vote on their offer Oct. 12.

The two sides have met nearly 20 times since May 17, according to Tibbits, and have agreed on most points with salary remaining the outstanding issue.

Gennings said the 5.5-per-cent offer is unacceptable, considering the current consumer price index of about 6.5 per cent. The soaring cost of housing and substantial increases such as 30 percent for auto insurance and 10 per cent in the college cafeteria prices, are also factors being considered.

Tibbits said union salary demands are higher than those agreed upon in other areas of the public sector.

"We haven't seen settlements like that," he said, adding that taxpayers wouldn't approve of such a pay hike.

Tibbits said most of Ontario's colleges will receive only four per cent of a general 5.3-per-cent increase in base operating grants this year, since 1.3 per cent will go to campuses initiating French services or special needs services.

Tibbits also emphasized that

monetary improvements were offered. They included access to benefits for retirees; an increase of the six-week parental leave granted to those who adopt a child to 17 weeks and the reinstatement of an employee's seniority if rehired within six years of leaving.

The issue of job security also has the union demanding an end to the contracting out of college services.

Tibbits said there have been no significant increases in the practice since 1981 and that the number of staff across Ontario has increased by 20 per cent since 1984.

Since colleges are in the education business, they don't want to give up the right to contract out because outside services, like security or cafeteria, can operate more efficiently.

Jay Jackson, chairperson for the union bargaining team, said the union is concerned about contracting out services, particularly in metropolitan colleges.

Humber College is undergoing renovations and he said the union is afraid maintenance of new buildings, traditionally bargaining unit jobs, will be threatened.

Jackson said the union has proposed a joint committee to study the issue.

## Faculty from page 1

curb spending on education have put a squeeze on the colleges, said Cruden, indicating this year's increase of 4 per cent in the colleges' base operational grant.

But Wesseling said the college presidents haven't done a good job of trying to obtain higher grants.

"We don't want a strike, but we need a strike vote to move the government."

Wesseling said university presidents, using the philosophy, "the squeaky wheel gets the grease," have been more successful in making their funding needs known. He said that 18 out of 22 Ontario colleges face a deficit and yet the college presidents underplay the problem.

Cruden, however, said he feels that confrontation doesn't work in dealing with the government.

"The quiet approach to promoting the college system has stood us in good stead over the years."

Cruden said college instructors' salaries have fallen behind because, in recent contract talks, demands have focused on lightening the work load. As a result, a \$60-million increase in funding beginning in the mid-1980s went to hiring about 1,000 more faculty.

Other issues dividing the two sides are job security and sick leave.

Employees have been able to ac-

cumulate unused sick days and collect up to a half year's salary when they retire. The college wants to end that practice for teachers hired after Sept. 1 this year.

Wesseling said he fears an alteration of the present system could result in a loss of the privilege for all employees and emphasized that retiring teachers count on it.

Cruden said, however, that the colleges' desire is to improve the sick benefits package by extending the days of leave available, which he felt were more important than the benefits retirees enjoy now. He said a letter of understanding spells out the colleges' commitment that a change will not affect employees hired before Sept. 1.

The faculty, concerned over job security, asked for a fund set aside representing one per cent of base salaries to help retrain anyone laid off. The colleges' offer of one-tenth that amount, Wesseling said, would amount to about \$20,000 per year at Conestoga College and wouldn't go far in a retraining program.

Cruden said he felt the colleges' offer included a more comprehensive look at retraining, including a joint commission on employment stability, job sharing, employee career counselling and an improved severance package.

## Salary increase causes delay in contract talks

By Alan Elliott

There were "games being played" in the last round of negotiations over the college support staff workers' contract, a union spokesman says.

Kerry Gennings, president of Conestoga's union local, said the college's bargaining agent gave union negotiators the impression that a 5.5-per-cent increase over the first year included benefit increases.

The college maintains the offer was strictly a salary increase, with increases in the benefits package extra.

Gennings said union representatives feel management altered the offer after talks broke down Aug. 31, in an attempt to entice members to accept the contract.

Ontario colleges and the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology support staff, represented by the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, have been bargaining since May 17. Their contract expired Aug. 31.

Conestoga College president John Tibbits denied the union's allegation.

"I was less than impressed when I heard it," said Tibbits, chairperson of the college's bargaining committee. He claimed the offer was clearly understood by the union's team when the talks closed.

"I don't see how you can misconstrue information when you spend hundreds of hours negotiat-

ing with a team."

Tibbits said the union has since tried to spread the message among its members that management can't be trusted.

Acceptance or rejection of the contract is up to the members, Tibbits said, but they should vote on correct information. He said the colleges will distribute a document indicating their final position before members vote on the offer Sept. 26.

Jay Jackson, chairperson for the union's negotiating team, said if the membership votes against the deal and the college position is 5.5 per cent plus benefits, "we're certainly willing to get back to the bargaining table and achieve an agreement."

## Free!!!

**Classified ads will be free in the next issue.**

Anyone interested should go to room 4B15 and fill out a form.

For more information please contact Lisa at 748-5366 (Spoke).

## Conestoga College Oktoberfest Night



\$4 a ticket

The pub will be at Queensmount Arena on Thursday, Oct. 12

Conestoga College Oktoberfest Night Selling Procedures:

1. Maximum of 200 tickets per day will be sold beginning Wednesday, Sept. 27, 1989.

2. Limit of 4 Oktoberfest tickets per person.

3. A numbered ticket will be given to those in line.

It can be redeemed to purchase a maximum of 4 Oktoberfest tickets by noon. Following this time, the numbered ticket will expire and the Oktoberfest tickets will be sold on a first come first serve basis.

4. No refunds.



# Transit commission will reimburse students

By Lori Krachuk

Some Conestoga students have been charged too much for their bus passes due to an administrative error.

Wally Beck, spokesperson for Kitchener Transit, explained that the passes, sold for \$153, should have cost \$143.

Some 80 students are affected, Beck estimated. The company will reimburse those students affected.

Students should have been sold passes at the discount price, Beck said, and the college should have then gone to the City of Kitchener to obtain a grant and reimburse the school.

Marjorie Hewitt, vice-president of the Doon Student Association, wasn't aware that a subsidy was available.

"We tried to get a subsidy, but it

wasn't a possibility," Hewitt said.

The grant for the \$10 subsidy was approved by the city after Kitchener Transit requested it. The college itself did not go after a grant, Beck said.

At full price, the passes cost \$184. Without the additional \$10 saving, students still save \$31.

The University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University obtained a \$10 subsidy as well as another \$10 subsidy from the City of Waterloo.

Conestoga's four-month pass is subsidized because Conestoga students use the bus system more than others.

Conestoga students have classes each day and the majority of them have lived in Kitchener for most of their lives. They therefore use the bus often and also use it on weekends, Beck said.



Students anticipate long waits and overcrowding in spite of a new bus schedule.

(Photo by Brian Shypula/Spoke)

## Bus from page 1

hour.

The new schedule also maintains a consistent 30-minute interval between buses on weekdays and Saturday, according to the report. The old schedule had waiting times of up to one hour weekday evenings and 45 minutes on Saturdays.

"The prior schedule was very erratic. The college deserves 30-minute service," said Jo Ann Woodhall, a transportation analyst with Kitchener Transit and the principal planner of the new route.

"We think we've improved service to the college," said Blair Allen, another transportation analyst.

Woodhall explained the changes were made necessary by the rapid growth and expansion of the

Brigadoon residential area and the Huron Business Park. These areas were given their own route by eliminating the 10B route that previously served the college.

A slight modification to the more direct 10A route has allowed Kitchener transit to introduce the 30-minute service to the college. Kitchener Transit has also kept the 7:30 a.m. express bus from downtown Kitchener to the college.

Woodhall admitted that the buses could become crowded during peak periods but explained that Kitchener Transit does have loading restrictions.

She added that Kitchener Transit views ridership at Conestoga College as "relatively static" and feels no need for more buses.

## PCBs stored at college

By Lori Krachuk

Hazardous wastes have been dumped and stored almost everywhere — including the college grounds.

Approximately 2,000 litres of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) are stored at Conestoga's Doon campus, says Malcolm Rostance, health and safety officer.

The PCBs come from two old transformers and capacitors that have been taken out of use. The waste is still here on the grounds because there is no where to take it — nobody wants it, Rostance said.

Other chemical wastes are also stored at the college, although they "are negligible," Rostance added.

He added that the chemicals were not dangerous. Waste such as discarded coolant from the machine shop is collected and stored in a 200-gallon tank. The chemicals are then collected each year by a waste disposal company.

Rostance said that the law requires that the college must be registered with a disposal company. The college applies to the government, naming a company they wish to have approved for use.

Conestoga College uses Tricil waste disposal of Toronto, who send a crew here each year.

While there may be no other dangerous chemicals at Conestoga, there are dangerous substances. In the biology lab, certain wastes must be disposed of carefully.

"Special precautions are taken with waste from dissections," said Kerry Gennings, a technician in the lab. The waste is first put into containers, then frozen and sent to the University of Guelph's Veterinary College. There the waste is incinerated and the ashes are disposed of, she said.

Special attention is also given to the disposal of blood and fluid wastes. The primary concern with these wastes is the possibility they may carry the AIDS or Hepatitis B viruses, Gennings said.

Disposal of these fluids involves disinfecting them first by placing them in an autoclave. Gennings added that the AIDS virus is killed easily, but the autoclave ensures all viruses are dead. The residue is placed in sealed containers and put in the garbage.

The lab is used by the nursing students as well as ambulance and emergency care students.

## Doon the Wild Thing Orientation '89



Thank you to everyone who assisted with Orientation Week.

Molsons  
Labatts  
Frank Gallizzi  
Elizabeth Hermle  
Carol Lawrence  
Virginia Hall  
Lorelee Herron  
Jeff Sutton  
Nancy Medeiros  
Laurel Peters

Angela Hehn  
Canada Packers  
Zehrs  
Pepsi  
Sherri Grimes  
Stella Medeiros  
Gary Gornik  
Chris Maldre  
Pamela Gould  
Intramural Committee

and to everyone who participated!



## High fitness standard set for LASA

By Deb Miller

It's not boot camp, but for law and security students, passing a physical fitness test is challenging for some and disheartening for others.

"Students think we work them pretty hard," said Bob Hays, law and security co-ordinator at Conestoga College's Doon campus.

The program can be stressful, but meeting fitness standards set by Ontario's police colleges is a deciding factor in a passing grade.

"At one time, students were getting into police colleges who weren't physically fit," he said. "In spite of the great demand for police, they (police colleges) haven't lowered their standards."

In the early 1980s, more emphasis was placed on fitness in the program, then called criminology.

Now, Conestoga is approached by more police recruiting divisions than any other college, Hays said.

"Every January recruiters from York, Toronto, Halton, London and the Ontario provincial police test students at the Doon campus for physical fitness," he said.

Elizabeth Mask, a fitness instructor at the college, said testing varies for males and females. Male students must complete a 1.5-mile run in 11.22 minutes, while females must complete the same run in 13.26 minutes.

Males must aim for 28 pushups in one minute, while females try for 25. Forty-five situps a minute is a good score for males and 44 is considered good for females.

Test levels also vary according to age. An average percentage is calculated from the overall score, which allows for leeway in some exercises, but students must have a 75 per cent average to qualify for police college, Mask said.

Other jobs such as correctional officers, private investigators, insurance adjusters and customs officers don't require the same fitness level.

Fitness testing comprises 60 per cent of the law and security mark.

Half of the students accepted to the program are women, Hays said.

"Women have an edge, Hays said, because (police) departments are being told by civil rights groups to straighten up. I'm of the view that women can earn their right like men, with no special privileges."

Leanne McPherson, a second-year law and security student who has a brother-in-law in the police force, had a good idea of what to expect when she entered the course.

"He (her brother-in-law) gave me insight into what the job entails," she said. McPherson has also worked for the Halton regional police as a secretary.

The fitness program is her biggest drawback, she said. But having done everything from cross-country skiing and playing volleyball, to doing aerobics, McPherson maintains that the course is worth it.

It's "the knowledge that you're helping others" and providing a "positive influence" in society that makes the career rewarding, she said.

# Instructors devote time to students

By Jennifer Motz

Dennis Gilles and Brad Howarth like to call it their "coaches' corner."

The two engineering instructors are devoting their time and efforts to help students graduate from the Doon campus program by offering tutorials and counselling.

Three teachers were coaches for the pilot project last year: Howarth, from electronic engineering, Gilles, from mechanical engineering and Ann Eby, from accounting.

Accounting instructor Bob Evans has taken over Eby's coaching duties this year.

Frank Abel, a former Conestoga College teacher, initiated the program. He owns Abel Information Services and conducts demographic studies for the college. He designed a questionnaire that students complete at the end of each semester outlining course and instructor concerns.

"Based on these studies, and

seeing the number of students we were traditionally losing in the program, Frank thought of the idea of coach," Howarth said.

He and Gilles teach classes 10 hours a week and hold scheduled tutorials. Field trips and guest speakers are also planned.

Students are encouraged to discuss personal, financial or academic concerns.

"The key word here is success and let's face it, for some, success may not be in this program. If we can offer a student alternatives, we do," Howarth said.

"Neither is education a race," he added. "Some students may need four years to complete a three-year program, it doesn't mean he or she is not successful."

Both men agree that much of the program's success is attributed to the co-operation and feedback of faculty. Some teachers offer tutoring services on their own time.

Since the program's inception, student retention has increased, but Howarth and Gilles both

remain unmoved by the statistics.

"This comment may not make me very popular with administration. Student retention may well be an offshoot of the success of the program but it is not our main goal," Howarth said.

"I will, as much as I can, address

the issue of attrition," Gilles said, "but not at the expense of the students. It is not the overriding issue. I want to make sure the kids get the best possible advice."

Both instructors enjoy their jobs immensely but admit college bureaucracy can be frustrating.

## Activity Passport Coloring Contest

On page 1 of your Activity Passport is a contest! Complete it and you have a chance to win a **MOLSON U SWEATSHIRT!!**

Deadline will be September 29 at 12 noon. Winners will be posted outside the DSA Activities office on Monday, Oct. 2.

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HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER ☐ STUDENT ☐ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_



# Student's concern prompts program

By Alan Elliott

A Waterloo campus student, who has been in a wheelchair for the past nine years, is planning a martial arts course for physically challenged people to start by early October.

"(They) are so vulnerable to attacks," says Stephen Steepe, 29, of Kitchener.

Several weeks ago, four people robbed a friend of his, who is confined to a wheelchair, of a bottle of whiskey he had just purchased. He received a black eye in the attack.

"That's sick," Steepe said. "I've heard of it happening before, but I never believed it until my friend told me."

Steepe is collaborating with Paul Szasz, a martial arts instructor and owner of the Golden Tiger School of Kung Fu in Kitchener, to find a place with wheelchair access and enough room to train 10 or 15 students. Anyone who knows of a suitable hall can contact Szasz at 742-0421.

"There are a lot of people in wheelchairs who want it, but there's no place around," Steepe said. He's heard of a place in Indiana that offers such a course.

Szasz plans to teach the students kung fu and, because of the students' physical limitations, will concentrate on the philosophy and psychology of the ancient art.

"Kung fu is meant for non-fighting," Szasz said, and involves self-confidence and how to deal psychologically with a would-be assailant.

"What they lack in physical defence they would gain through psychology."

Szasz will also teach them weaponry: the use of the bow staff, the kama (a curved blade), the tonfa (a club) and a variety of knives and sticks.

Steepe practised judo from the age of six and held a black belt in kick boxing before an accident left him paralysed from the waist

down.

He was working for Superior Sanitation when he fell from a truck. He remembers nothing until he came out of a coma five months later.

The fall also triggered a latent disease he hadn't been aware of: malignant hyperthermia.

While still comatose, Steepe developed a fever of 109 F and was at the point of death when a doctor recognized the symptoms and administered an injection that saved his life. He's in the middle of writing a book about the ordeal that he hopes to finish in three years.

Steepe said he currently keeps fit with weight training. He also began piano lessons last year and plans to resume them in the near future.

People interested in the martial arts course can contact Steepe at 893-2855.



Instructor Paul Szasz (left) demonstrates a Kung Fu bow staff to Stephen Steepe.

(Photo by Alan Elliott/Spoke)

# They can make your average anything but.

## Recycle

from page 1

nursing program.

Besides assistance from the custodial staff, physical resources provides large bins and the space to store the bins as well as help in their setup and removal.

"People are actually getting in the habit of throwing it in boxes," added Jackson, referring to paper. However, he is still disappointed with the lack of interest in recycling, saying that few want to do the leg work or take any time to help out.

The recyclable material that is collected is taken away by Tri-Tech Recycling, a Kitchener-based company. Tri-Tech charges \$24 to pick it up and the cost is taken off the value of the load. A pound of fine paper is worth three cents, while other material is worth five cents per pound.

Further plans for the project include collection of pop cans and newspapers. Now that the custodial staff is helping, it is possible to collect cardboard boxes, which account for a huge amount of waste at the college.

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So if you're thinking Magna Cum Laude at the end of this year, don't forget to think Smith Corona at the beginning of this year.





# SPORTS

## New recreation assistant hired

By Andrea Buckley

A new staff member whose main focus will be the intramural program has begun work at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre at Conestoga's Doon campus.

Becky Westman is settling into her position as program assistant. She replaces Sue Galbraith, who is now with the Cambridge YMCA.



Becky Westman

The Milverton, Ont. native's job involves intramural program promotion, operation and hiring and training of additional staff.

Her 1987 recreation leadership degree from Fanshawe College led Westman to a job at the London Psychiatric Hospital, where she organized a variety of activities and spent time with patients.

She also gained experience in recreation leadership while working as a recreation assistant for the Middlesex Catholic board of education in London.

Westman says experience she gained there in organizing tournaments and special events will aid her in her current job.

She is most concerned about her new responsibility of advising the Waterloo and Guelph Student Associations and the Stratford Nurse's Association. She is required to act as part-time business manager for these organizations, but says she's "not too great at accounting."

Westman has been involved with the Kitchener Civitans women's fastball team for five years and plays women's ringette in the city.



Henry Ellis, second-year marketing student, signs up for an intramural event while athletics officer Barb McCauley gives details.

(Photo by Andrea Buckley/Spoke)

## Intramural teams popular

By Andrea Buckley

Intramural interest at Doon has been high despite the havoc of the first two weeks of classes, says Barb McCauley, athletics officer at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

Intramural committee members have had a display table with registration sheets at the entrance to the main cafeteria for the past week.

Students can enter as teams or individuals in the first session.

Activities start Sept. 20 and include co-ed slo-pitch, men's fastball, co-ed flag football, squash and contact hockey. A tennis tournament will also be held.

Students can also register for an inter-campus slo-pitch tournament taking place Sept. 28.

McCauley said the committee planned to start registrations the week of Sept. 5, but "there was too much going on with orientation week" and they were forced to postpone efforts.

Last year at this time, there were more first-year students interested in the program. McCauley believes the orientation mail-out package they received is the reason. A special issue of Spoke with an athletic insert, along with an athletic calendar, was mailed to all first-year students "so they knew exactly what was going on

during the first two weeks," McCauley said.

In addition to intramural activities, an extensive extramural schedule has been planned. Conestoga is hosting contact hockey and volleyball tournaments in February and is expecting participants from several colleges in the province. Teams from Conestoga can also be sent to other schools to take part in their tournament events.

Any interested teams can register through the recreation centre.

## Condors win opener

By Mike Matthews

Playing the part of an ungracious host to the limit, Conestoga's varsity women's softball team opened their season Sept. 16 by winning their own tournament.

In the championship game of the Conestoga Invitational tournament, the Condors defeated Loyalist Lancers 7-1. Pitcher Sandra Moffat allowed only two hits and struck out 14 of the 24 batters she faced in the seven-inning game.

While Moffat kept the Loyalist offence in check, her teammates supported her with nine hits, including two home runs.

Tracey Gimby knocked in the first run of the game in the opening inning with a single to get the offence started. She hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning to complete the scoring.

Dawn Smale had three hits in the final: two singles and a sixth-inning home run. Other team members contributing one hit each were Natalie Nobrega, Shelley Kitchen, Michelle Goden and Tina Tocher.

The six participating teams were divided into two separate pools of three. The top two teams from each pool advanced to the medal round, with the first place teams meeting in the championship final and the second-place teams playing a consolation final.

Loyalist, Seneca and Mohawk were in one pool, with Centennial, Conestoga and a local ladies' industrial team, Blondies, in the other.

In the early round games in Conestoga's pool, the Condors defeated Blondies 6-4 and Centennial 12-4 to finish first, with Blondies beating Centennial 20-0 to claim second place.

Two Conestoga players were injured in their first two games. Tracey Snedden sprained her ankle in the win over Blondies and Jenny VanDerzwaag was hit in the face by a pitch in the Centennial game and has a slight crack in her jaw.

In the other pool, Loyalist defeated Seneca 18-4 and Mohawk 14-3 to advance to the championship game.

Blondies defeated Seneca 14-1 to win the consolation title.

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October 2-6

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Contribution by Doon Student Association

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